

Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The specification has been amended by replacing the first paragraph on page 4 to correct a typographical error in the last line thereof. The oils referred to are alkoxylated oils.

Amended claim 12 has been further amended to correct the spelling of chelating.

Claims 1-30 are presently in this application. Claims 1, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 25 were rejected as being anticipated by Vassiliades U.S. Patent No. 4,879,134. The Office Action stated that, absent evidence to the contrary, solvents disclosed in Vassiliades,, such as soya oil, alkylated glycol ethers and ether acetates are nonionic surfactants and that such solvents would encompass ethoxylated oil as called for in the claims. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The contrary evidence is submitted herewith via the enclosed declaration by the inventor, Mr. Douglas C. Arndt.

As is noted in the declaration, the Vassiliades patent neither mentions nonionic surfactants nor discloses such a surfactant (Arndt. Decl. ¶7). "Neither alkylated glycol ethers, ether acetates nor soya oil are nonionic surfactants and do not encompass ethoxylated oil" (Arndt Decl. ¶7). Vassiliades does not teach the claimed printing compound and thus is not an anticipation.

Claims 1, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 25 are patentable over the teachings of Vassiliades.

Claims 2-4, 9, 16-18, 23, 24 and 26-30 were rejected as unpatentable over Vassiliades for the reasons advanced with respect to claims 1, 10, etc. This reason is faulty (Arndt Decl. ¶¶7,8).

Claims 2-4, 9, 16-18, 23, 24, 26-30 are also patentable.

Claims 14 and 23 were rejected as unpatentable over Vassiliades in view of the Kuno et al publication (US2003/0133958) on the grounds the secondary reference teaches polyoxyethylene

(POE) alkyl ether. The Kuno reference is not within the filed of the inventor's endeavor, i.e., involves a nonalagous art. One could not reasonably expect one faced with the inventor's problem to look to the skin whitening art (Arndt. Decl. ¶9). In view of the shortcomings of Vassiliades and the nonpertinence of Kuno et al, claims 14 and 23 are patentable.

Claims 5-8 and 19-22 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base and intervening claims. In view of the patentability of the base claims over Vassiliades these dependent claims are also considered to be patentable.

This application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is courteously solicited. If applicants' attorney can be of any further assistance, please call the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 23, 2004.



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Harold L. Jackson